

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Thomas David Starkey
Serial No.: 10/619,985
Filed: May 30, 2003
For: A Device And Method To Limit Filling Of The Heart
Group Art Unit: 3738
Examiner: N/A
Attorney's Docket No.: N9464-ICW
Customer No.: 23456

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

VIA FACSIMILE NO. (703) 872-9306

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

In Claim 23, in the first line, change "23" to --22--.

In Claim 25, in the first line, change "25" to --24--.

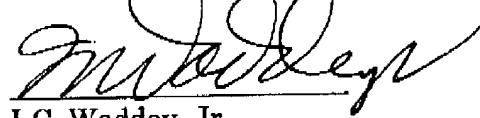
In Claim 28, in the first line, change "28" to --27--.

REMARKS

Upon review of the application, it appears that in the course of rewriting the claims, three dependent claims were mistakenly identified as depending from themselves rather than from the preceding claim which was the intent of the Applicant. This amendment corrects that technical error.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with the filing of this Response to Deposit Account 23-0035.

Respectfully submitted,



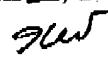
I.C. Waddey, Jr.
Registration No. 25,180
WADDEY & PATTERSON
A Professional Corporation
Customer No. 23456

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

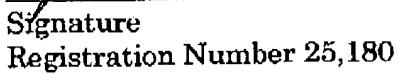
I.C. Waddey, Jr.
Waddey & Patterson
414 Union Street, Suite 2020
Bank of America Plaza
Nashville, TN 37219
(615) 242-2400

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that this Preliminary Amendment is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via facsimile at facsimile number (703) 872-9306 on March 22, 2004.



I.C. Waddey, Jr.



Signature
Registration Number 25,180



3/22/04

Date